REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 7 are now pending in the application. Claims 5-6 and 8-22 have been withdrawn. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujio (Japanese Pat. No. 11179903) in view of Hiwada (U.S. Pat. No. 6,270,193). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended Claim1 to incorporate the subject matter indicated in the Examiner's reasons for allowability and therefore should place Claims 1 and 2 in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 3-4 and 7/4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant(s) have amended base Claim 1 and Claim 7. Therefore, claims 3-4 and 7 should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 🔀

Βv

Gregory A Stobbs Reg. No. 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. Box 828 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 641-1600

GAS/kk